GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1762
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2003
EXPORT OF TEA TO PAKISTAN
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has exported 10 million kgs. Of tea to Pakistan during the current fiscal;

(b) if so, whether it was more in comparison to the last fiscal year;

(c) if so, upto what extent;

(d) the other steps being taken to export more tea to Pakistan; and

(e) the extent to which it has been welcomed by the Pakistan Government?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a): No Sir.

(b)&(c): During 2003-04 (April-October), India has exported 3.25 million kgs. Of tea to Pakistan as against 1.98 million kgs exported during the corresponding period in 2002-03.

(d)&(e): There has been greater interaction between the tea industry of India and Pakistan.The Indian tea industry led by the Indian Tea Association (ITA) sent a delegation to Pakistan in June 2003 and signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Pakistan Tea Association for export of 10 million kgs. Of tea during the period July 2003 to June 2004.Subsequently a tea trade delegation from Pakistan has also visited India and had discussions with the Indian tea producers for import of tea from India.As this interaction has been at the tea industry level, there is no information as to the reaction of the Government of Pakistan.